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Patent
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form of an array of alphabetic, numeric buttons for providing data, said process including the steps of:

receiving associated telephone number signals upon the instance of a call from one of said remote terminal apparatus;

testing said associated telephone number signals with respect to stored negative data to determine the acceptability of said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus as indicated by an acceptability signal;

accepting said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus conditioned on said acceptability signal;

interfacing via said communication facility to accepted calls to provide voice signals for cueing callers and receiving responsive digital data in accordance with a select format; and

testing at least certain of the responsive digital data against stored positive data to determine if further voice signals for cueing callers should be provided.

11 30. (Amended) A system for determining the acceptability of calls and executing certain operations of telephonic formats in association with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for individual callers, wherein said remote terminal apparatus includes a telephonic instrument with voice communication means and digital input means in the form of an array of alphabetic, numeric buttons for providing data, said system comprising:

means for receiving associated telephone number signals upon the instance of a call from one of said remote terminal apparatus;

means for testing said associated telephone number signals with respect to stored negative data to determine the acceptability of said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus as indicated by an acceptability signal;

means for accepting said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus conditioned on said acceptability signal;

means for interfacing said communication facility to provide voice signals for cueing callers and receiving responsive digital data in accordance with a select format to accepted calls; and

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testing at least certain of the responsive digital data against stored positive data to determine if further voice signals for cueing callers should be provided.

03 14 38. (Amended) A system according to claim 30, wherein the stored negative data includes a list of unacceptable numbers.

04 20 41. (Amended) A method for determining the acceptability of calls and executing certain operations of telephonic formats in association with a communication facility including remote terminal apparatus for the individual callers, wherein said remote terminal apparatus includes a telephonic instrument with voice communication means and digital input means in the form of an array of alphabetic, numeric buttons for providing data, including the steps of:

receiving associated telephone number signals automatically provided by the communication facility upon the instance of a call from one of said remote terminal apparatus;

testing said associated telephone number signals with respect to stored data to determine the acceptability of said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus; and

selectively providing one or more cues to said one of said remote terminal apparatus and providing at least one cue depending upon the associated telephone number signals for said call from said one of said remote terminal apparatus in accordance with a select format.

05 22 43. (Amended) A method according to claim 41, further comprising the step of:

transferring said call to a manual terminal based on a condition and displaying data relating to said caller.

New Claims

06 52. (New) A process according to claim 31, wherein an operator enters data at the manual terminal.

07 53. (New) A process according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:

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storing at least a portion of the data entered by the operator.

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54. (New) A system according to claim 36, wherein an operator enters data at the manual terminal:

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55. (New) A system according to claim 36, further comprising:
storing at least a portion of the data entered by the operator.

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56. (New) A system according to claim 40, wherein the associated telephone number signals are received automatically from the communication facility (ANI).

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57. (New) A method according to claim 43, wherein the displaying of the data relating to the caller is based on the associated telephone number signals relating to the call.

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58. (New) A method according to claim 43, wherein the data relating to the caller includes caller entered data.

REMARKS

This amendment and response is submitted further to an office action dated June 4, 2001, and a personal interview with the Examiner conducted on October 16, 2001. Applicant and the undersigned appreciate the courtesy extended by the Examiner during the personal interview. By this amendment, Applicant has amended claims 16, 30, 38, 41, and 43, as indicated above and is introducing new claims 52-58 for the Examiner's consideration.

In paragraph 2 of the office action, the Examiner rejected claims 16-18 and 30-51 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Examiner indicated that in claims 16, 30, and 41, "the preamble of the claims presents that the subject matter is a process, system, or method (respectively) 'for executing formats', however, neither the steps nor the means as presented clearly accomplishes the goal of the preamble that being 'for executing formats', thus it is not clear that the claim limitations as presented are complete as the suggested purpose of the claims, i.e. 'for executing formats...' does not accomplish the purpose of the preamble as presented, it is